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WHERE DO THEY COME FROM ?

EARTH SKY
SEA SUN
MOON STARS
FLOWERS
FISHES BIRDS
ANIMALS
MEN

D. O. Teasley

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Mother

Where Do They Come From?

A book for children, explaining in simple, modest words the mystery of the origin of life and the sacredness of procreation

By D. O. TEASLEY

Author of Private Lectures to Mothers and Daughters, Private Lectures to Men and Boys, Rays of Hope, The Truant, The Double Cure, etc.

"Ignorance is the mother of vice"
"Knowledge is power"

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PREFACE

Preface

The intention of this book is not to delve into science nor to exhaust the subject with which it deals, but to present concisely the elementary laws of procreation in plain yet modest words that will both instruct and elevate the minds of the young.

There are many books that treat the subject of sex and procreation, but many of them are too advanced, both in terminology and in their treatment of the subject, for young children just beginning to read and to ask questions about sex. Some books, too, are so extensive in their treatment that a child will not read them. It is hoped that the simplicity and brevity of this little book will appeal to youthful minds, and that it will prove helpful to parents who wish to combat ignorance and

evil by the judicious impartation of sex knowledge.

It is not presumed, however, that this book contains all the available and useful instructions on the subject of sex and reproduction. There are many good books that parents especially should read, but you should not give to your child any book to read until you are sure that it contains wholesome instruction.

FOREWORD TO PARENTS

Foreword to Parents

This book has been written as much to assist parents as to instruct children. There are parents who try to keep from their children the knowledge of sex. Such parents may not welcome this little volume and the many others of its kind; but when their children grow up ignorant of the most important phase of earthly life, or learn about sex and procreation from bad company, and are led to physical dissipation and mental ruin, they will see their mistake—but it will be too late. There is a vast and ever-increasing number of other parents, however, who would like to instruct their children, but their own technical knowledge of the laws of generation is so limited that they feel unable properly to teach the subject. By such parents as the latter, and by the children of such par-

ents, this book will doubtless be welcomed.

The real question for us parents to solve is not, Shall we keep from our children the knowledge of sex? but, Who shall be their teacher? Children will learn about sex and procreation. It is natural that they should learn. Neglect to teach them yourself, and they will learn from older children or degraded adults—learn in the vulgar terms of the profane—learn in a manner that will inflame their passions, lower their ideas of life, and open the way to dissipation, immorality, and disgrace. You must settle the question, Who shall teach my child the knowledge of self and sex?

It is suggested that parents read this book with their children. If they ask questions that are too deep for their young minds, tell them that they can not understand all yet, but that later on in life you will endeavor to make it all plain. Often this intimate association of parent and child will form a link of confidence and trust

that will help the parent safely to pilot the child through the rough and dangerous places of childhood and youth.

FOREWORD TO CHILDREN

Foreword to Children

My Dear Little Friends:

You will find in this book, I hope, the answer to many of your questions about the mystery of life. But do not expect too much, for our subject is a large one and even the wisest of men and women do not understand all about it. Read the book carefully. Begin with the first chapter and read page by page to the end. In any other way you will not get a clear understanding.

I have tried to use simple language, but if you find words that you do not understand or ideas that are not clear to you, go to your parents or your teacher and they may be able to help you. Above all, let me ask of you not to talk of the things in this book to other boys and girls. It is especially improper for boys and girls to

speak to one another about sex and the origin of life. Always ask your parents, your school teacher, or your Sunday-school teacher for information about these things, but never ask in the presence of others. Choose some older person when he, or she, is all alone, then ask for the information you desire.

In concluding this foreword, let me say, little readers, that I tell to you freely and confidentially the things contained in this book, and I am going to trust you to use them wisely. If some day when you are grown to be good and strong men and women, I may have the pleasure of meeting some of you and hearing you say that this book has helped you, I shall be highly rewarded for my labor.

WHERE DID ALL THINGS START FROM?

Chapter I

Where Did All Things Start From?

When we look up at the great blue sky above us filled with thousands of shining stars, and lighted by the sun in the daytime and by the moon at night; when we look around us at the big world full of plants, animals, and men, we cry out in wonder, "Where do all these things come from?"

Among the very first questions asked by a boy or girl is, "Where did this come from?" The baby, even before it can speak, gazes in wonder at the great world it sees and seems to ask with its eyes, "Where do all these things come from?"

If we want an answer to our question, we must go to God's book of beginnings. Genesis, the name of the first book in the Bible, means beginning. In the first words of that book we read, "In the beginning

God created the heaven and the earth." So, then, God is the beginning of all things. The apostle John says, "All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made."

The first things made by God were the heavens and the earth. But the earth was without form and deep darkness lay upon all the world. For a long time the world may have remained in this condition of formlessness and darkness. But finally it pleased God to finish the world that he had created. God, having all power, had only to speak, and whatever he willed was done. He might have finished the whole world of things in one day, but he divided his work into six days.

On the first day God made the light. "And God said, Let there be Light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called

the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day." On the second day God caused the clouds to rise to their place in the sky. And God called the clouds, the air, and the sky that now rose above the earth, Heaven. This heaven is not, of course, the place where the righteous go after death and the judgment.

On the third day God divided the water from the land, and the water he called Seas, and the land he called Earth. The three great divisions of the world, then, are heavens, seas, and earth. Next, God said: "Let the earth bring forth grass and herb," and the earth obeyed his word and the grasses and herbs sprang up on the earth. You will see that there was grass before there were any animals to eat the grass.

On the fourth day God lit his big lamps —the sun, the moon, and the stars. Before this day, no doubt the heavy clouds

had obscured the great lights, but now God cleared the sky and set them to their great task—the sun to rule the day, the moon to rule the night, and the stars to twinkle in the sky. The great lights are also for signs and seasons, and to mark the days and the years so that time can be reckoned.

On the fifth day God said, "Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good." You will notice that on this, the fifth day, God made the fowls and fishes.

It was now the beginning of the sixth day, "And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and everything

that creepeth upon the earth after his kind:

Up to this time God had not made any people, for we read in the Bible that "there was not a man to till the ground." "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." God made man's body, you see, out of the dust of the ground, but man's life and soul were breathed into him from the nostrils of God.

But man was alone. In Gen. 2:18 we read, "And the Lord God said, it is not good that man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." "And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall

upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh thereof; and the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man."

"Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made."

HOW HAVE ALL THINGS CONTINUED?

Chapter II

How Have All Things Continued?

We all know that the flowers, fishes, animals, and people that we see around us today are not the ones that God first made, for those first fishes, animals, and men died many years ago. God knew that unless he gave all life the proper power to reproduce itself, that soon there would be no living creatures in the world and he would have to do all his work over again, so God gave those first flowers, fishes, birds, animals, and persons the power to produce others like themselves. "And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth." To Adam and his wife, God gave the same mysterious power to produce other people like themselves. "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and mul-

tiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." Thus God gave every living thing the power to continue its kind. Before one individual dies, there is one or two or three others to take its place, and so there are many more living things in the world today than there were when God made the world.

Of the mysteries of this God-given power, we shall learn more as we proceed with our study.

This power that is given to every living thing to bring into the world other creatures like itself, we shall call the parental, or procreative, power. This wonderful power is a holy gift of God, and boys and girls should not speak of it except to Papa and Mama, to Teacher, or to some other wise person, who will give you

good and proper instruction. It is improper, as I have before told you, for boys to speak of it to girls, or girls to boys. Some bad school children are inclined to speak of this God-given parental power and other private and sacred things by the use of vulgar and unclean words. This is very wrong and improper. Shun the boy and the girl who uses bad words and do not listen to their filthy conversation. For their association and improper words will hinder you in making of yourself a manly man or a womanly woman.

I have told you that God gave to the first creatures he made, the power to bring others into the world, but this does not explain how that mysterious power is exercised, and consequently does not satisfy your minds. I now will tell you the great law that governs the reproduction of all living beings. In later chapters I will il-

lustrate how this great law applies to different forms of life.

Though you may not have known it, every living thing in the world—with a few exceptions in the lower forms of life —has a mama and a papa just as you have. There are mama and papa flowers, fishes, fowls, and animals. It is to these mamas and papas that God has given the mysterious power to bring baby creatures into the world. Without both a mama and a papa there could be no flowers, no fishes, no birds, and no sweet babies.

The flowers, grasses, and trees—things that do not have the power of feeling—start from seeds, but fishes, birds, and animals — all of which have feeling — start from eggs. In every case, however, the seed or the egg produced by the mama must be touched or fertilized by the papa element before it has power to develop into a new life. Just how fertilization takes

place, that is, just how the papa and mama elements touch and unite to start a new life, you will learn in later chapters.

There are many different ways in which new creatures are begotten and born. In some cases in the flower family, the papa and mama elements are carried by the breezes or by the bees until they touch and unite; in some cases, in the fish family, the papa and mama elements meet in the water; but in animal life the elements meet before the mama element has left the mother's body. A new life may begin in the earth from a tiny seed, may start in the waters of a brook, in a warm nest, or in the mother's body. In almost every kind of life, however, there must be a papa and a mama element, and they must meet and unite before a new life can begin.

THREE KINGDOMS OF LIFE

Chapter III

Three Kingdoms of Life

There are in the natural world three kingdoms of life—the mineral, the vegetable, and the animal. The mineral kingdom, composed of the earth, does not possess organic life. The stones, for instance, which belong to the mineral kingdom, do not have the organs of life, such as the roots and leaves of the vegetable, or the lungs and stomach of the animal. The form of life found in the mineral kingdom is therefore called inorganic life. The stones, you know, do not grow nor feel nor reproduce themselves. There are no mama stones, no papa stones, no baby stones. In our study of where things come from, then, we are not interested in the mineral kingdom so much as we are in the higher forms of life, found in the vegetable and animal kingdoms.

Three Kingdoms of Life

Though the vegetables do not see, nor smell, nor hear, nor taste, nor feel, yet they do grow and reproduce themselves. There are mamas, papas, and babies in the vegetable kingdom, just as there are in the animal kingdom or the human family. As we shall learn in a later chapter, every vegetable baby must start originally from a seed.

Every creature in the animal kingdom not only grows, but also possesses feeling. We say that vegetables live and grow, but animals live and grow and feel. Animals possess the ability, also, to move from place to place by their own power, whereas the vegetable does not possess mobility, or the power to move. The reproduction of the animal, however, is very much the same as that of the vegetable, except that animals, or, as they are sometimes called, sentiment or feeling beings, come from eggs instead of from seeds.

Though man is superior to the lower animals, he is nevertheless a member of the animal kingdom of life. It is man's more perfect body and far superior mind and his soul that elevate him above the lower animals, but in the method of reproducing his kind, man is much the same as the animals. In the chapters that follow, the particulars of procreation will appear clearer to your mind, and the wonders of God's plan of life will cause you to love and reverence the laws of reproduction.

WHERE DO THE FRUIT AND FLOWER BABIES COME FROM?

Chapter IV

Where Do the Fruit and Flower Babies Come From?

It may seem strange to you that there are baby fruits and baby flowers, just as there are baby boys and baby girls, but every young fruit-tree and every tiny flower is really a little plant-baby. It is of these vegetable babies and how they come into the world that I am about to tell you.

In some plants the papa and the mama elements are in the same flower; in others they are on the same stalk, but in separate flowers; and in still others, the papa element is on one plant and the mama element is on another. We will now notice, separately, a common example of each of the plants just mentioned.

The morning-glory is a good example of the plants that have the papa and the mama in the same flower. If you will notice the

morning-glory closely, you will see fine little stems, or stamens, as they are called, growing inside the flower. On the tips of these stems is a fine yellow dust, or powder, called pollen. These stems are the morning-glory papa, and the yellow dust, or pollen, is the papa element, or life-germ.

Now let us see if we can find the morning-glory mama. She is more retiring than the papa, so we must look more closely. Hidden deep down in the center of the flower you will find six tiny seeds. These seeds, with their covering and a tender, tube-like passage that leads down to them, make up the morning-glory mama.

But how do the papa and mama elements meet and unite? for unless they meet there can be no morning-glory babies. The tip of the mama tube in the center of the flower is soft and moist, but the yellow dust, or pollen, is dry. The wind blows on the morning-glory vine, or a busy

bee in search of honey flies into the flower, and the pollen falls from the stems, or stamen, and drops on the moist tip of the tube, where it lodges. It then finds its way down the small passage in the center of the tube and meets the waiting seeds. This process is called fertilization.

Time goes on. The flowers dry up and die, leaving a little brown pod with the seeds in it. After awhile the pod opens, the morning-glory bows her head, and the baby seeds fall to the ground where they sleep until the next spring. Then the warm showers and sunshine call to the little seeds and they begin to grow. The vines soon grow up, bloom, and produce another little morning-glory family. But if the pollen, or papa element, had not reached the seeds, or mama element, no amount of sunshine and rain could have made the seeds to grow. So you see the morning-glory has a papa and a mama, and all

Morning Glory Babies

the morning-glories came from papas and mamas.

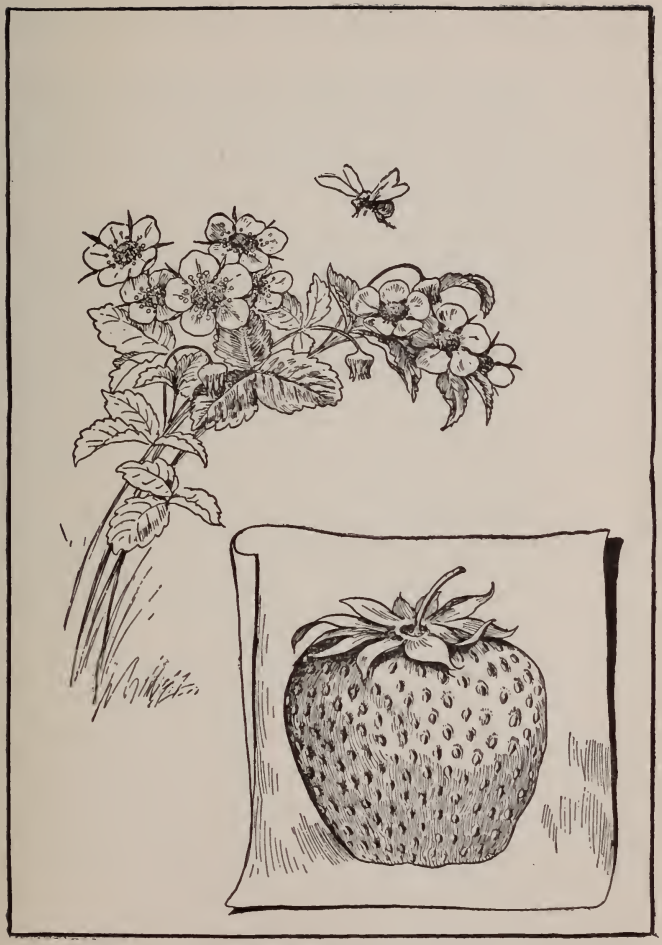
To most American children, Indian corn, or common field corn, is a familiar example of a plant that combines the papa and the mama elements on the same stalk but not in the same flower. If you will go to a corn-field at the time of year when the corn is "in tassel" and the ears are forming, you will notice that out of the point of each ear of corn is growing a hair-like substance commonly called the "silk." This bunch of silk, with one end hanging out of the ear and the other end of each silk running down to the young grains of corn, is the mama element. The pollen that forms on the tassel is the papa element. If you go into the corn-field at flowering-time, you may see the pollen flying in the air when the corn-stalk is shaken. This pollen, or papa element, falls on the silk, and its influence is borne

Corn Babies

to the young grains of corn. When the corn has ripened, the farmer stores it away until springtime. Then he plants the grains, or seeds, that were fertilized. There, warmed by the sunshine and nourished by the moisture from the spring rains, the seeds begin to grow and produce baby stalks of corn. So we see that the corn babies have both a papa and a mama.

There is still another kind of plant that I must tell you about. An example of these plants, known to most of you, is the strawberry. Some strawberry plants produce a mama flower, sometimes called the imperfect flower; others, though they have the mama element too, have the papa element, and are called perfect flowers. In the center of the papa, or perfect, flower are a number of little stems called stamens. On the points of these grows the pollen, a very fine yellow dust. The mama, or imperfect, flowers do not have

these stamens and pollen. When the fruit-grower sets out his strawberry plants, he fills every fourth or fifth row with plants that will produce papa, or perfect, flowers, so that when the blooms come the pollen may pass from the papa plants to the mama plants. At blooming-time the wind blows the pollen from one plant to the other, or the busy bee in search of honey carries it from one to another. There are many other plants that have the papa and the mama elements on separate stalks, bushes, or trees. Sometimes these papas and mamas are widely separated, but before they can produce other plants like themselves, the papa element must pass to the mama. Many a busy old bumble-bee crawls into a papa flower in search of honey, and then flies out again not knowing, of course, that some pollen, or papa element from the papa flower, has stuck to his hairy old legs. Later he visits a mama



Fruit Babies

flower, and in the act of getting in and out he shakes off the pollen, which unites with the mama flower to produce a little plant-baby.

Plants are very much like human beings. They get married, rear children, and then die and leave their offspring to fill their places in the world. Springtime is the wedding-day of the plants. It is then, you know, that the lily puts on her pure white robes, the rose dons her crimson, pink, and white, and all the other flowers put on their best clothes and their brightest colors. In honor of this great wedding-day, Nature trims the earth in green, and all the birds sing for joy.

The autumn, or fall of the year, we might call the funeral-day of the plants and flowers. The earth is draped in brown and gray. But each mother flower, as she reverently bows her head and sinks to rest on the earth, lets fall from her bosom

a tiny seed that has been touched and fertilized by the father who now sinks by her side. If the mother flower could know and speak, she would tell us that she is happy even in the gray autumn, for she would know that the seed she drops in the earth would, with the coming of another spring, help to fill the earth with fragrance, joy, and beauty.

THE OYSTER BABIES

Chapter V

The Oyster Babies

The fruit and flower babies, which we have just studied, belong to the class of nonsentient beings, or beings that do not have nerves nor the power to feel. The oyster is one of the lowest forms of animal life. It is supposed to possess the sense of feeling, but it can not see, nor hear, nor taste, nor smell. Yet because it can feel we class it with the sentient, or feeling beings.

The oyster, unlike most sentient beings, has the mama and the papa natures in the same body. The oyster is very tender and would soon be killed by the rocks and the water if it did not have some protection. So nature has built the oyster a very strong house. This house is called the shell. You have doubtless seen the oyster shell. It is composed of two parts that

Oyster Babies

fit so tightly together by strong muscles that nothing can get in to harm the oyster family.

In this strong shell-house the mama element and the papa element each contributes its part to the starting of the baby oyster. When springtime comes, the door of the oyster house opens and the tiny fertile egg is expelled. The oyster egg then floats about in the water until it lodges against a stone or some other hard substance, where it sticks fast and begins to grow. Soon a strong shell-house, like the one it came out of, begins to form about the growing oyster baby. Some day it will be a full-grown oyster with a mama and a papa nature, and will loosen itself from the stone and live like other oysters.

WHERE DO THE FISH BABIES COME FROM?

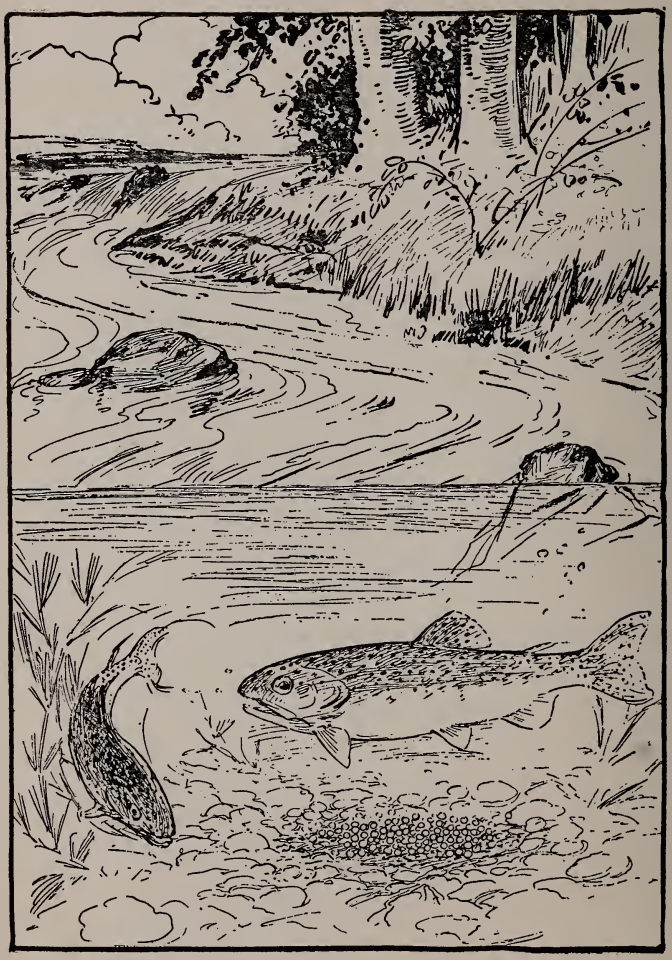
Chapter VI

Where Do the Fish Babies Come From?

You will remember that I told you in a previous chapter that some babies come from seeds and others from eggs. The eggs in the fish family are produced by the mother, just as the seeds are produced by the mama plants and flowers, but before the eggs can hatch out any baby fishes, they must be fertilized by the papa element.

When the spring rains begin to patter on the roof of the fish house—the river or the pond—Mr. and Mrs. Fish start upstream to find their summer home in the warm shallow waters to raise a little fish family.

When they have found a convenient place, the mother fish expels a large number of tiny eggs from her body, where they have been growing for some time.



Fish Family

You must remember, however, that all eggs are not as large as the hen's egg, with which you are possibly best acquainted. Many eggs are so small that they can not be seen without the aid of a magnifying glass. Some fish eggs are about the size of mustard seeds, or even smaller, but the mother fish produces hundreds and even thousands of them. After the mother has deposited the bunch of tiny eggs under the edge of some rock or in some other safe place, the father fish swims over them and expels upon them from his body a whitish fluid which looks very much like the white part of a hen's egg. This whitish fluid contains the papa element that fertilizes the eggs, or mama element, so that they will hatch out many little baby fishes. All the eggs do not hatch, of course, for some of them are destroyed; but a great number of the eggs deposited by the mama fish and fertilized by the papa fish will

soon hatch out little fishes to swim about in the warm shallow water.

The mama and papa fish are not as good to their babies as our papas and mamas are to us. When they have deposited the eggs and fertilized them so that they will hatch, the papa and mama fish swim off down-stream again and many times never see their babies. Little fish babies, however, are able to care for themselves, and as soon as they are hatched they go swimming about the water hunting for food and exercising their little bodies. In this way they soon grow up to be mamas and papas too, and in their turn raise other families of little fish-babies.

WHERE DO THE BIRD BABIES COME FROM?

Chapter VII

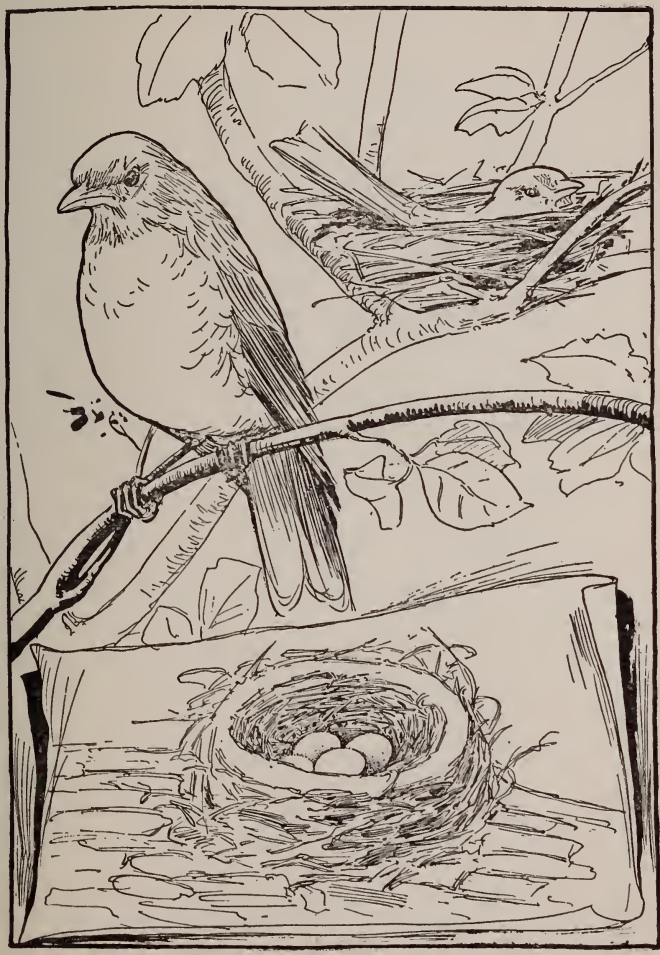
Where Do the Bird Babies Come From?

No doubt many times in the early spring you have looked out of your window at the robin redbreast hopping about on the green lawn. As with the flowers and fishes, so with the birds. Springtime is marriage or mating time. The robin redbreast that you saw busy on the lawn has a mate somewhere not far away. They have come north to build a nest and raise some little baby birds. The baby bird, like the baby fish, comes from an egg. But the bird egg is fertilized, or meets the papa element, before it leaves the mother's body. In God's ordained way, the life germ of the papa bird passes to the body of the mama bird and meets the tiny egg.

When the papa and the mama bird get their cozy nest all built, the eggs pass

from the body of the mama bird and lodge in the nest; then comes the period of sitting. The fertile eggs must be kept warm for several days so that the life germ will begin to grow and form a baby bird. While the mother sits on the nest of eggs and warms them with her body, the papa bird sits in a tree near by and sings a song to cheer her. Occasionally he brings a bug or a worm and feeds the mama bird, and sometimes he will even sit on the nest awhile, so that the mother bird can fly about and take exercise and get food and water.

After a few days the warmth from the mother's body causes the life germ to awaken, and the baby birds begin to grow, grow, grow. Soon they are too large to stay in the shell, so they take their tiny beaks and drill holes in the shells and come out into the world. The papa and mama birds are better to their babies than



The Bird Family

are the fishes. The bird parents stay with their babies, feed them, and give them water until their feathers have grown and their wings become large enough to fly. Then the baby birds grow up to be as large as their parents. Soon they fly away, and next spring these baby birds—now grown large—come back, hop about on your lawn, build nests, lay eggs, and hatch baby birds of their own.

WHERE DO THE ANIMAL BABIES COME FROM?

Chapter VIII

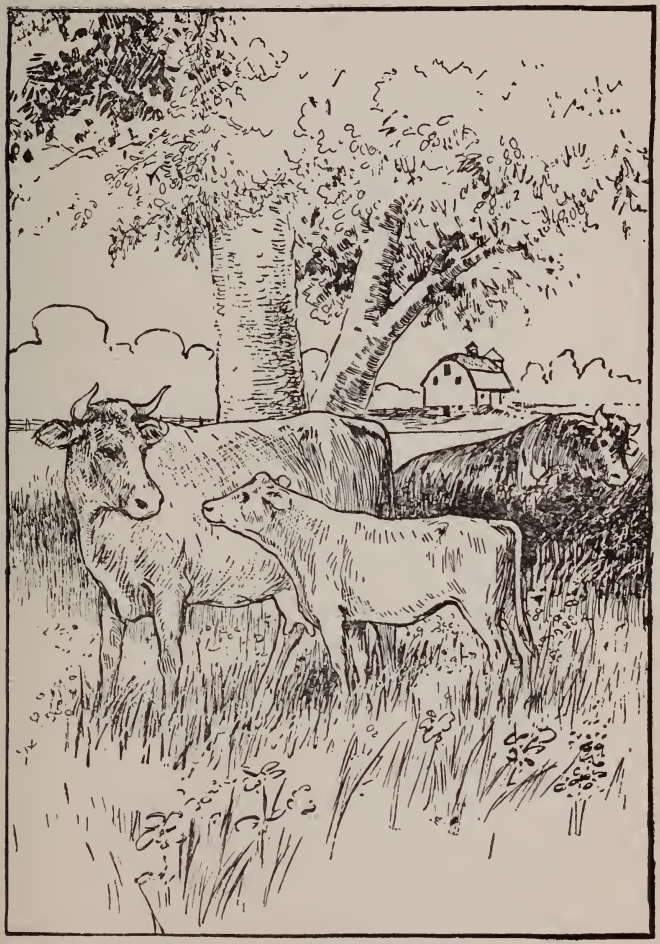
Where Do the Animal Babies Come From?

When we come to study the laws of reproduction in animal life, we find a different process by which papas and mamas bring their young into the world. By animals in this chapter we mean such as horses, cows, sheep, dogs, and cats. Here, as everywhere else, the rule that every organic creature has a papa and a mama holds good. Here, too, we shall find that life must originate from an egg, and that the egg must be fertilized by the life element from the papa.

In the reproduction of animals, however, we find a notable difference from the way that flowers and fishes and birds bring their babies into the world. In the fish family, for instance, the egg is fertilized after it leaves the mother's body. In the

bird family the egg is fertilized before it leaves the mother's body, but is hatched, or warmed into life, in the nest. With the animals the development of the egg is different from both the fishes and the birds. The animal nest where the egg is fertilized, warmed into life and nourished until it is able to begin its own independent life is in the mother's body.

In the mother's body, too, there are two small organs called the ovaries. These organs produce the ova, or eggs. You might naturally think that the egg from which the larger animals are produced would be much larger than the egg from which comes the baby bird, but such is not the case. The ovum, or egg, from which many of the larger animals begin life is so small that it can not be seen without the aid of a magnifying glass. There is another very noticeable difference between the common hen egg or the bird egg



The Lower Animal Family

and the ovum, or egg, of an animal. The animal egg has no hard shell. Since this egg is so very small and is fertilized and nourished into life within the mother's body, it is not likely to be injured and therefore no hard shell is needed to protect the life germ.

The animal egg, as we have before noticed, is produced by the ovaries. From the ovary the egg passes through a very small tube down to a little fleshy room, or nest, called the womb. Here in the womb it meets the life germ of the male and is fertilized. Warmed by the mother's body and nourished by the circulation of her blood, the little calf, for instance, lives and grows in the mother's body for about three-fourths of a year. At the end of that time it is expelled from the mother's body, or, as we commonly say, it is born. For a while after it is born it is nourished by the mother's milk, until its stomach and

digestive organs have grown strong enough so that it can eat grass and such other food as is taken by the parents. Like the flowers, the fishes, and the birds, the little calf grows up and itself becomes a papa or a mama to other baby calves.

WHERE DO HUMAN BABIES COME FROM?

Chapter IX

Where Do Human Babies Come From?

We now come, young reader, to study the origin of our own lives. If you have read all the preceding chapters of this book, you are prepared for the answer to your question, Where did I come from? but if you have not read the foregoing chapters, you should stop right here and read them.

Though man is endowed with more perfect physical organs, with intellect, and with an immortal soul, which elevate him far above the lower animal, or brute, creation, he is yet, in one sense, a member of the animal family. It will not surprize you, then, if I tell you that we come into the world very much as animals do. In fact, the human baby must start from an egg just as the animal babies do.

The human ovum, or egg, is produced by two small organs, called the ovaries, lying inside the mother's body. About every twenty-eight days the ovaries produce an egg. These, so small that the natural eye can not see them, pass through a very small tube into the womb, a fleshy nest in the mother's body about the size of a small pear. But not every egg produces a new life. Thousands of the eggs of the fish are destroyed and never make baby fishes; bad boys, cats, and other destructive things destroy many bird eggs, and millions of hen eggs are used for food. God has provided an overabundance of eggs, so that the fish, the birds, the animals, and men may be sure to reproduce their kind. As with other forms of life, so with man, many tiny ova, or eggs, pass from the mother's ovaries and are lost. It is only when the ovum has been fertilized by the papa element that it

The Human Family

starts a new life. So you see our rule—all life starts from a seed or an egg, but the egg or seed must be fertilized by the papa element—holds good in human life just as it does in vegetable and animal life.

When the human egg leaves the ovaries, it stops for a little while in the little fleshy nest before mentioned, located in the mother's body below her heart. If it does not meet the papa element there, it passes out of the body and is lost; but if it is fertilized by the papa element, it awakens and begins to grow. Soon it attaches itself to the walls of its little warm house so that the circulation of the mother's blood feeds and nourishes it. There, loved by the mother before it is born, and kept alive by her blood, the tiny ovum, or egg, continues to grow for nine long months. Sometimes it grows in that time to weigh eight or ten pounds, and even more. Then it

comes out into the world, and we say, "A baby is born."

I think you will love your mother better if I tell you that when you were born it caused her much pain and suffering. Children seldom realize how much their mothers have done for them. Mother carried you in her own body near her heart, loved and cared for you there for three-fourths of a year, then she endured the sufferings of childbirth. But her care and labors did not stop there; she nourished you from her own body with the milk from her breasts and cared for you when you could not help yourself. Often the fish mother never sees her babies, the bird mother soon leaves her young, and the cow soon forgets her baby calf, but the human mother's heart clings to her children until death. Now you know, in part at least, why Mother and Father love you so well and why you should love and obey them.

You have doubtless observed that only married people have children. This is God's ordained way. Children must have both a father and a mother. It is the mother's part to care for the babies and to keep the home while the father earns the living. The Lord says, "For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain [two] shall be one flesh."

One cause for which a man and a woman leave their own homes, get married, and start a new home is that they may bring children into the world, care for them, and bring them up to be good men and women. In their child a man and his wife are truly made one, for each have a part in bringing it into the world and in bringing it to maturity.

In concluding this chapter, let me say, little reader, that I may not have fully satisfied your mind on every point; everything

in the mysterious process of life may not be fully clear to you, but as the years go by you will learn that what you have read in this little book is, after all, the primary knowledge of reproduction, or the origin of life. Life is full of mysteries to all of us, for there are some things that the oldest and wisest men can not understand or explain. You should not be surprized then, nor discontented, because you do not know everything about the origin of a new life.

SACREDNESS OF REPRODUCTION

Chapter X

Sacredness of Reproduction

From what I have told you about the origin of life, you will understand, I believe, that the process of reproduction, or procreation, is one of the most sacred acts of life. In bringing into the world new beings, possessed of an intellect and an immortal soul, man approaches nearer to God than in any other act of life. God alone can create, for to create means to make from nothing; but God has given to men and women, as well as to other forms of organic life, the power to produce other beings like themselves.

Knowing now, as you do, the high office and sanctity of the act of bringing children into the world, you will understand the sacredness of the procreative organs of your body. The private parts of the human body are wonderfully adapted for the

work God has designed them to fulfil. They are very tender and highly sensitive, and should be cared for and protected. Any rough handling of the sexual organs may form a bad habit and will, if continued, impair the health of the boy or the girl and make him, or her, unable, when grown up, to bring into the world strong, healthy children. Some boys and girls have, through ignorance or through the influence of bad children, learned the bad habit of abusing the sexual organs with the hands or otherwise. Nothing is more destructive to your health, and nothing will more surely prevent you from becoming strong, beautiful, intelligent, and useful men and women, than this vile practice of abusing the private parts of your body.

Some boys and girls whose papas and mamas have not taught them the lessons you have read in this book, are left to learn

as best they can from vile companions, who many times are very ignorant themselves. In almost every neighborhood you will find boys and girls whose mouths are filled with filthy words. They have little or no knowledge of procreation except what they have picked up in the streets or from filthy children or older people that make fun of the sacred things of life in vulgar and unclean words.

If you want to keep your body, mind, and soul strong and pure; if you want to become men and women that are good and strong, take care of your bodies, keep clean in body, mind, and soul, and avoid everything and everybody that is unmanly, unwomanly, or unclean. Bad company is the most dangerous thing in the world for the boy who wants to become a gentleman and the girl who wants to be a lady. Refuse to associate with or talk to the boy

or girl who wants to use filthy conversation.

If there is anything about the subject of this book or about the sacred things of life that you would like to know, ask your parents or your teacher, who should be able and willing to give correct information.

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